



PATH Program

Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope.

(Welfare Reform)

The PATH Program is designed to establish and maintain a connection to the labor market for individuals referred by the Department of Human Services (DHS), while offering educational and training opportunities and job search/job readiness activities to increase the individual's income, therefore, reducing or eliminating a family's need for public assistance. The PATH Program provides participants the education and training needed to move up career ladders for self-sustaining, lasting employment and permanent self-sufficiency.

The PATH Program is an investment in the long-term growth and prosperity of our workforce and our economy. The program prepares clients for the workforce by connecting them with workforce readiness supports including education and training that can lead to long-term career placements and advancements to become self-sufficient. For Michigan's employers, The PATH Program provides prepared workers ready to take and retain jobs to help businesses avoid high turnover and become more productive. This approach provides long-term economic growth for individuals, families, businesses and Michigan's evolving economy.

Program Allowable Activities

- Unsubsidized Employment
- Subsidized Employment (*as funding allows*)
- On-the-job Training (*as funding allows*)
- Job Search & Job Readiness
- Work Experience Program (WEP)
- Community Service Program (CSP)
- Vocational Educational Training (*as funding allows*)
- Providing Daycare for Participant in CSP
- Job Skills Training Directly Related to Employment
- Education Directly Related to Employment
- High School Completion or GED Preparation

Program Services

- Transportation Assistance (*as funding allows*)
- Interview Clothing & Uniforms
- Child Care Information/Referrals
- Basic Skills Assessment
- Career Assessment & Counseling
- Career & Labor Market Exploration
- Goal Setting & Individual Service Strategy
- Resume Writing Assistance
- Job Readiness Workshops (Resumes, Interviews, etc.)
- Barrier Resolution Workshop
- Money Management Workshop
- Various other Job Preparation & Retention Activities

21-Day AEP (Application Eligibility Period)

The State of Michigan has determined a 21-day time frame will allow for MWAs to assess, evaluate, and more effectively prepare **FIP applicants** to attain employment, meet federal work participation requirements, and work toward self-sufficiency through PATH. FIP applicants who are more effectively prepared to attain employment and achieve self-sufficiency through Michigan's demand-driven workforce development system are better able to fulfill employers' needs for skilled and competent workers.

21-Day AEP Overview

Effective **January 1, 2013**, Michigan requires **FIP applicants** to successfully complete a 21-Day AEP at an MWA, as a condition of eligibility for FIP benefits. Upon successful completion of the 21-Day AEP, applicants continue with PATH participation. The 21-Day AEP consists of three weeks' worth of assignments individualized for each applicant's needs. The 21-Day AEP primarily consists of customized assessment, barrier identification and resolution activities, and work readiness activities/ instruction.

21-Day AEP Goals

- Identify barriers and facilitate barrier resolution activities for individuals who are not job-ready by providing effective case management, necessary supportive services, work readiness instruction and job search skills for the individuals to obtain employment
- Familiarize applicants with 21-Day AEP, PATH and work participation requirements
- Prepare applicants for stable attachment to the labor force while steering them toward sustainable employment which can provide self-sufficiency
- Meet weekly with applicants; assess applicants' competencies, skills and interests; develop, update and sign weekly assignment plans; identify barriers and initiate barrier resolution activities, as necessary; determine the need for and provision of supportive services; monitor and document progress, as well as define achievements; and record weekly outcomes and the AEP completion